

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A system for imaging checks, comprising:
an image capture host coupled to a sorter operable to sort a plurality of checks, to retrieve data from the checks and to record digital images of the checks, the image capture host operable to obtain the digital images of the checks recorded by the sorter;
a processing system communicably coupled to the sorter and the image capture host and operable to:
 process each check based on the data retrieved from the check by the sorter in order to generate processing data for the check; and
 to store previous pass information for each check for which processing data was previously generated, the previous pass information comprising at least a portion of the previously generated processing data; and
 at least one computer-processable medium storing a database external to the sorter and coupled to the image capture host, the database operable to store the digital images of the checks obtained by the image capture host and the previous pass information; and
 wherein the image capture host is further operable to:
 obtain the processing data generated for each check by the processing system; and
 determine whether processing data was previously generated for a specified check and, if processing data was previously generated for the specified check, to obtain at least a portion of the previous pass information for the specified check from the database via the processing system.
2. **(Canceled)**

3. **(Currently Amended)** The system of claim ~~[[2]]~~1, the image capture host further operable to generate an image record for storage in the database, the image record comprising at least a portion of the processing data for a specified check and the digital image of the specified check.

4. **(Canceled)**

5. **(Canceled)**

6. **(Currently Amended)** The system of claim ~~[[5]]~~1, the image capture host further operable to generate an image record for storage in the database, the image record comprising at least a portion of the processing data for the specified check, the digital image of the specified check and, if processing data was previously generated for the specified check, at least a portion of the previous pass information for the specified check.

7. **(Original)** The system of claim 1, the sorter comprising a digital camera, the digital camera coupled to the image capture host and operable to record the digital images of the checks and to transmit the digital images of the checks to the image capture host.

8. **(Original)** The system of claim 7, the digital camera further operable to transmit the digital images of the checks to the image capture host using Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP).

9. **(Currently Amended)** A method for imaging checks, comprising:
retrieving data from a plurality of checks at a sorter;
processing each check based on the data retrieved from the check in order to generate
processing data for the check;

determining whether processing data was previously generated for a specified
check;

obtaining at least a portion of previous pass information from a database external to
the sort for the specified check if processing data was previously generated for the specified
check, the previous pass information comprising at least a portion of the previously
generated processing data;

identifying a subset of the checks for imaging based on the processing data for each of
the checks;

recording digital images of the identified checks;

obtaining the recorded digital images of the checks using TCP/IP; and

storing the obtained digital images of the checks in ~~[[a]]~~the database external to the
sorter.

10. **(Original)** The method of claim 9, obtaining the recorded digital images of
the checks comprising receiving the recorded digital images of the checks from a digital camera.

11. **(Original)** The method of claim 9, further comprising generating an image
record for storage in the database, the image record comprising at least a portion of the
processing data for a specified check and the digital image of the specified check.

12. **(Canceled)**

13. **(Canceled)**

14. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim ~~[[13]]~~9, further comprising generating an image record for storage in the database, the image record comprising at least a portion of the processing data for the specified check, the digital image of the specified check and, if processing data was previously generated for the specified check, at least a portion of the previous pass information for the specified check.

15. **(Currently Amended)** A system for imaging checks, comprising:
logic stored on at least one computer-processable medium;
the logic operable to:
obtain digital images of a plurality of checks from a sorter using TCP/IP;
determine whether processing data was previously generated for a specified
check and to obtain at least a portion of previous pass information from a database
external to the sorter for the specified check if processing data was previously generated
for the specified check, the previous pass information comprising at least a portion of the
previously generated processing data;
receive processing data for each check;
generate an image record for storage in the database, the image record
comprising processing data for a specified check and the digital image of the specified
check; and
~~and to~~ provide the obtained digital images of the checks to ~~[[a]]the~~ database
external to the sorter for storage.

16. **(Original)** The system of claim 15, the logic further operable to obtain the
digital images of the checks by receiving the digital images of the checks from a digital camera
for the sorter.

17-19 **(Canceled)**

20. **(Currently Amended)** The system of claim ~~[[19]]~~15, the logic further
operable to generate an image record for storage in the database, the image record comprising at
least a portion of the processing data for the specified check, the digital image of the specified
check and, if processing data was previously generated for the specified check, at least a portion
of the previous pass information for the specified check.

21. **(Currently Amended)** A system for storing and indexing a plurality of images of checks processed by an external sorter comprising a database, the database comprising a plurality of records and previous pass information for each check, the previous pass information comprising at least a portion of processing data previously generated for the specified check and [[,]] each record corresponding to an image of [[a]] the specified check and comprising:

a front/back identifier field operable to identify whether the image comprises a front image or a back image of the check;

a date field comprising a specified date for the check;

a sequence number field comprising a specified sequence number for the check; and

a file format field operable to identify a file format for the image.

22. **(Original)** The system of Claim 21, the specified date comprising a processing date for the check.

23. **(Original)** The system of Claim 21, the specified date comprising a date on which the check was presented for payment.

24. **(Original)** The system of Claim 21, the specified date comprising a unique date corresponding to the check, the unique date comprising an original date stored in previous pass information for the check.

25. **(Original)** The system of Claim 21, the specified sequence number comprising a unique sequence number corresponding to the check, the unique sequence number comprising an original sequence number stored in previous pass information for the check.

26. **(Original)** The system of Claim 21, the file format for the image comprising one of Moving Picture Experts Group, Joint Photographic Experts Group, and Tag Image File Format.